

this paper is filed to correct the clean copy of amended Claim 1. Please note that each of the inserts [in the 'clean copy' and in the 'marked-up version'] has been changed in the penultimate line to insert --is--.

Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension. The requisite fee (minus the \$110 previously submitted on September 3, 2002). Should the fee be missing or should additional fee(s) be due please charge the same to Deposit Account 22-0261.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a page Terence Allen's book entitled "Particle size Measurement", Second Edition, published by Chapman and Hall Ltd.(1975)[Enclosure 1] and a copy of a page from Ullmann's, Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry, Fifth Edition, Vol. A7, p. 160-161, 1986, editor Wolfgang GERHARTZ, publisher:VCH.

Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claim 1 to read as follows [a marked up version of the claim amendment(s) is appended hereto]:

1. (Five times Amended) Solid pulverulent reactive composition for the purification of a gas, comprising at least 90% by weight of sodium bicarbonate and a caking inhibitor for sodium bicarbonate and being devoid of silica, said inhibitor comprising lignite coke and/or a magnesium compound selected from the group consisting of magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, mixtures of magnesium oxide and magnesium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxycarbonate, wherein said composition exhibiting a mean particle size of less than 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and a particle size slope of less than 5 and wherein said inhibitor is present in an amount by weight of greater than 0.5% of the weight of sodium bicarbonate.

~~Please cancel Claim 3.~~